Aesop
V. 3

ESOPS FABLES

Tranſlated both Grammatically, and alſo in propriety *of our Engliſh phraſe*; *and*, euery way, in ſuch ſort as may be moſt profitable *for the Grammar-ſchoole*.

The vſe of it is according to the directionrs in the prefaces, and more fully ſet downe in *Ludus Lit.* or the *Grammar-ſchoole*.

LONDON,
Printed by *I. D.* for *Thomas Man*, and are to bee ſold by *Thomas Pavier*, 1624.

BRITISH MUSEUM

To the Right Worſhipfull, Sir *Iohn Harper*, Knight, *all true proſperitie.*

Right worſhipful, I may not bee forgetfull of the loue which you haue ſhewed towards the furtherance of my indeuors for the Grammar-School. Accept therfore this ſmall pledge of my thankefull acknowledgement. Though it be little in value, and in the eſteem of the moſt, yet the benefit of it will (I truſt) help to make amends, and further the perfecting of my deſires. By the right vſe hereof, may the little ones from their firſt yeares get much profitable vnderſtãding & wiſedome

wiſedome, yea ſuch, as whereo
they may haue very good vſe al
their dayes, in what place ſoeuer
they ſhall bee imployed: An
may moreouer haue euery poin
& part of the learning in it, ſo im
printed in their memories, as they
ſhall neuer forget them, but haue
them, as it were, liuely before
their faces: That ſo they may
learne to embrace the vertues
therein taught, and to flye the vi-
ces; to foreſee dangers, and how
to auoyd them; to behaue them-
ſelues wiſely & diſcreetly in the
whole courſe of their life. As for
example, to giue a taſte hereof, in
the firſt fable of the Cock eſtee-
ming a barley corne aboue a pre-
cious ſtone, they may ſee the foo-
liſhnes of men, & more eſpecial-
ly of childrē, preferring play be-
fore learning, a little pleaſure &
folly, before the moſt excellent
and diuine wiſedome: to teach

them to follow after and to em-
brace learning and wiſedome,
euen from their tender yeares,&
to bee aſhamed of miſ-ſpending
their precious time in play and
idle vanities. So in the ſecond
fable of the wolfe and the lamb,
they may learne to take heede
all their life long how they haue
to deale with, or any way pro-
uoke cruell men, that are too
hard for them: Becauſe they,
when they liſt, can take any oc-
caſion to prey vpon them, or to
doe them a miſchiefe, and that
this is matter enough, If they
be notable to reſiſt them.

Thus likewiſe the third fable
of the mouſe and the frog, being
at warre together, about the regi-
ment of the mariſh ground, vn-
till the Kite ſnatch them both a-
way & deuoure them, may teach
children in all their time to be-

ware of discord and dissention with others, especially contend on for superiority & preferment. Because such vsually as will go to warre, as it were, for euery trifle, make themselues a prey to others, especially to the common aduersary. And but onely to name the fourth. The Apologue of the dogge swimming ouer the riuer, which through ouer much greedinesse, chopping at the shadow of the flesh which hee saw in the water, lost the flesh it selfe which hee carried in his chaps, is to teach euen children alwaies to take heed of too much greedinesse, and euer to keepe a measure in their desires, lest that by ouermuch earnestnesse in seeking more than is fit, they come to lose al, & to repent when it is too late. Now beside this sound wisedome, and besides all the o-

ther

ther helpes concerning the more certaine, easie, and speedy means of attaining the Latine tongue (as happy experience hath taught very many, who haue giuen plenifull testimony hereunto; for construing, parsing, making Latine, getting phrase, and the like, by such translations) they may learn hereby chiefly to make report of a fable, or of any like narration, or history, in good sort and fit words, which is no small commendation to any whosoeuer. For the manner of effecting hereof, I haue set it downe shortly in the Epistle to the Reader, and more fully in my *Grammar schoole*. And thus (that you may see my constant desire in creeping forward by little and little, for performing my promise, in accomplishing my seruice for the perpetuall benefit of

schooles and of all posteritie
learning stull of the learned
helpe the vnlearned, and by pro-
pounding to all what I han
found by experience, that the
may finde the like, and be partā-
kers of all my trauels) hau
presumed vpon your loue to pre
sent this little translation vnt
you. Which you accepting ac-
cordingly, I shall be more incou-
raged to striue forward for per-
fecting of the whole, & to spend
my last thoughts for the com-
mon good. And thus with all
thankfull acknowledgement vn-
to your selfe with your worthy
Lady, & all yours, I humbly take
my leaue, and rest

Your Worships in

the Lord,

I. Brinsley.

To the painefull Schoole-master.

First cause your Scholar, by reading this translation, to tell you in euery fable, what the matter of the fable is. Secondly, to what end and purpose it was inuented, what it is to teach, and what wisedome hee can learne out of it. Thirdly, how to make a good report of the fable, both in English and Latine, especially in English. Fourthly and lastly, to make right vse of it, for all matters concerning Grammar, as for construing, parsing, making and proouing the Latine; and so for reading forth of English into Latine, according to the directions in my former translations, as namely, in Sententiæ, Cato, Cord, &c *And principally for obseruing the best phrases both English and Latine; thus shall you receiue your desire. Those things which are too harsh to be vttered in English, word for word, according to the*

the Latine phraſe, I haue referred to the margent, with an Aſteriske or little Starre: and variety of Engliſh phraſe, I haue ſet alſo in the margent, noted with Italike letters in Alphabeticall order. But for theſe I referre you to that which I haue written in my Gramar-ſchool. *Vouchſafe me your better direction in loue: and what is defective, I ſhall (God willing) labour to ſupply in the next edition.*

*a Esops Fables.

*a The Fables of *Esop.* Tales, or fained deuises.

I

*Of a Cocke. [*This fable setteth out the foolish contempt of learning and wisdome.*

Contempt of learning.

*Of a Cock leading Hens, or of a dung hill cock. *Gallinaceus*] signifieth belonging to a cock or hen, or henniſh, ſeeming to be added onely to diſtinguiſh the word from *Gallus* ſignifying a Frenchmā

* AS on a time a Cocke * ſcratched in a dunghill, hee found a precious ſtone: *b* ſaying, what, doe I finde * ſo gay a thing? If a * Ieweller had found [it] * none * could haue beene more iocund than hee, *c* as who knew the price [of it.] [But] * in truth *d* it is of no vſe to mee, neither doe I

* Whilſt a cocke &c. or A cocke found, &c. whilſt. * turned ouer a dunghil *viz* ſcratching init, turned it vp by little and little. *b* What quoth he, or why? * a thing ſo bright or ſhining. * a Lapidary, or one that trimmeth and ſelleth precioue ſtones. * no thing. * could be. * merry or ioyfull. *c* becauſe he knew the worth of it. * truly. *d* it will ſerue me for no purpoſe.

*esteeme, or reckon it of a great [price] or value. *e* make any reckoning of it *I in truth. **walim, b.e magis velim*, wil or wold rather haue *f* a barly corne. *g* all the precious stones in the world. *b* the moral sense or the meaning, vse & application of this fable for the framing and ordering of our manners. *i* You must vnderstand. *k* learning and knowledge. * [understand] by the &c. *l* sensuall or giuen ouer to pleasure. * for neither fooliſh men doe loue. *m* good learning. *n* a volpptuous man. *o* because * to whom one c1onely, pleasure can please or be pleasant.

* *e* greatly esteeme it: yea *I in very deed * had rather haue *f* a graine of barley, than *g* all precious stones.

b The Moral.] *i* Vnderstand by the precious stone, *k* art & wisedome. * By the Cocke, a fooliſh man *l* giuen to pleasure. * Neither fooles loue *m* liberall arts, sith they know not the vse of them: nor *n* man giuen ouer to pleasure, *o* as * whom onely pleasure doth delight.

2

Of a Wolfe and a Lambe

[*Shewing the nature of cruel oppressors, that they can easily take any occasion to prey vpon, and spoyle the poore.*]

Tyranny.

A Wolfe drinking at the *a* top. *fountain. *a* head of a * spring, seeth

*

eth a lambe drinking *b* farre beneath. He * runneth [and] *c* rateth the lambe, * for that hee * marred the spring. The lambe * trembled, besought [him,] that hee would spare [him] being innocent. * That hee neither could indeede marre the drinke of the Wolf, sith hee dranke farre beneath, nor yet * would. The wolfe *d* contrarily *e* thundereth: * [saying,] Thou *f* church-robber, *g* thou doest nothing: thou alwaies * hurtest [mee:] [thy] father, mother, all thy * odious *h* kinde is against mee * by all meanes. * Thou shalt *i* smart for it this day.

b far off or a great way beneath. * runneth to [him] *c* chideth or blameth. * because. * troubled the fountaine, *viz.* mudied the water **trepidare* for *trepidabat*, *Enallage*. * Himself not indeed to haue bin able to trouble. * to haue beene willing. *d* on the other side. *e* speaketh terribly, or railes against the lambe. *f* wicked wretch. *g* this is nothing thou sayest. * hurtest [me] alwaies. * enuied. *h* stocke or kinred. * diligently or alwayes. * Thou shalt giue punishment to me to day. *i* abye.

Mor.] It is an old saying: * that it is an easie matter to finde a staffe to beate a dogge. A mighty man easily taketh an * occasion

* a staffe to be found easily, that you may beat a dog. * a cause.

k he please.
l committed fault enough.
* could not resist or withstand.

casion of hurting, if *k* he list to hurt. Hee hath *l* offended sufficiently who * cannot resist.

Discord.

3
Of a Mouse and a Frog, [setting out, the fruit of discord.]

a warred, or waged battle.
* It was striuen.
b gouernmẽt, rule or soueraignty.
c marish ground.
d fight.
e very sore.
f oft lying hid or hiding himselfe.
* herbs; *viz.* wild herbs, or grasse.
* deceits, or lying in waite.
g more strong.
* able.
leaping vpon.
b chalengeth.
i mouse.
* by open Mars. Mars the god of warre, for waire. for their speare.

A Mouse *a* made war with a Frogge. * The contention was concerning *b* the Empire of the *c* fen. The *d* battell was *e* vehement & doubtfull. The crafty Mouse *f* lurking vnder the * weeds, sets vpon the Frogge by * policy. The Frogge *g* being better in strength, * puissant in breast and in * bouncing, *b* prouokes the *i* enemy * in open warre. *k* A bulrush was the speare to each of them. Which * battell being seene farre off, the * Kite maketh haste vnto [them:]

k They had either of them a bulrush
* strife. * gleed, or puttocke.

and

and whileſt neither [of them] * taketh heed to * themſelues, for the * earneſtneſſe of the battell, the Kite ſnatcheth away, and teareth in peeces * both the warriours.

* bewareth, or looketh to.
* her ſelfe.
* ſtudy.
* either of the warriors. *al.* either warriour.

Mor. It is wont * euen ſo to fall out to factious citizens, who being * inflamed with a * deſire of bearing rule, whilſt they * contend amongſt themſelues *l* to bee made Magiſtrates, doe put their * wealth, and alſo their life * very oft in danger.

* to happen, or betide after the ſame manner.
* kindled, or ſet on fire.
* luſt.
* ſtriue.
l for magiſtracy, or to be gouerners.
* riches. * for moſt part alſo their life.

4

Of a Dogge and a ſhadow, [warning to beware of too much greedineſſe.]

Vnſatiable grèedineſſe.

A Dogge ſwimming ouer a riuer, carried * a peece of Fleſh in [his] * chap. The Sunne ſhining, * as it fell out, the ſhadow of the fleſh ſhined

* fleſh.
* grinning mouth
* ſo as it cometh to paſſe, or happeneth.

ned in the waters: which
ſeene hee greedily catching
at it, loſt that which was in
his *b* iawes. Therefore being
c ſore ſmitten with the loſſe
both of the *d* thing, and alſo
of his hope, firſt, he was *e* a-
mazed, * afterwards getting
heart againe, hee * howled out
thus: O wretch, * there wan-
ted a meaſure to thy * greedi-
neſſe. *f* There was enough,
and more than enough, * if
thou hadſt not doated: * now
thou haſt leſſe than nothing by
thy fooliſhneſſe.

a he catching at greedily ſo ſoone as he ſaw.
b chaps.
c aſtonied.
d fleſh.
e aſtoniſhed.
*& the receiuing againe courage.
* barked out.
* a meaſure was wanting, or thou waſt too greedy.
* couetouſneſſe.
f Thou hadſt enough and too much. * vnleſſe thou hadſt doted or but that thou doated. * leſſe than nothing is now to thee by thy fooliſhneſſe
* admoniſhed of modeſty, or to be modeſt.
* to our couetouſneſſe.
* Terentian Sannio.
*ſubtilly, craftily.
* with a price.

Mor.] Wee are * put in minde of modeſty by this fable, wee are put in minde of wiſedome, that there be a meaſure * in our deſire; leſt we loſe certaine things for vncertaine, Surely, that * *Sannio* in *Terence* [ſpeaks] * wittily: I, quoth hee, will not buy hope * ſo deare.

5

Of a Lion and certaine other beasts, [teaching that it is the safest to deale with our equals.]

Danger of dealing with mighty men.

A Lion had * made an agreement with a sheepe and with certain other [beasts] * that there should bee a common hunting*. They goe to hunt, * there is a Hart taken. *Al.* They diuide [him.] * Euery one [of them] beginning to take vp their * seueral parts * as it was agreed, the lion roared out: Saying, one part is mine, because I am the worthiest. *a* Also another part is mine, because I am *b* most excelling in strength. Furthermore, I chalenge a third part, because I haue sweat more in * catching the Hart. And lastly, vnlesse you will grant me a fourth part, * farewell friendship. * His fellows hauing

* couenanted.
* a common, or generall hunting to be.
* It is gone.
* A hart or stag is catched.
Al They diuide the seueral parts to euery one.
* the hart.
* Euery one, one by one.
* singular parts, or one by one.
* had bin agreed.
a In like manner.
b the strongest.
* taking.
* it is done, [or there is an end] concerning friendship.
* This being heard, his fellow doe depart.

hauing heard this, doe de-
part empty and * ſtill, not
* being ſo bolde as to mutter
againſt the Lion.

* holding their peace: or quiet, or ſilent.
* daring.

Mor.] * Faithfull dea-
ling hath beene euer rare, i
is more rare * in this age
[but] it is and hath been al-
wayes moſt rare amongſt
c mighty men. Wherefor
it is better [that] you liu
with your *d* equall. For he
that liueth with a mighti
[man] * muſt neceſſarily
* depart oft times from hi
owne right. * You ſhal
haue *e* equall right with
your equall.

*fidelity, or faithfulneſſe hath bin rare euer, or ſeldome found.
* at this age, or at this day.
c men of might, or great men.

d match,

*hath it neceſſary or of neceſſity.
* grant.
* There ſhall bee equal right to thee.
e equity.

6

Of a Wolfe and a Crane; [teaching what it is to doe good to an vnthankefull body.

Scornefull ingratitude.

A Wolf deuouring a ſheep
* *e* by chance the boane
ſtucke in his *f* throat. Hee

* the bones by chance haue ſtucke.
e as it happened.
f gullet.

g goeth

goeth about, desireth helpe, but] no man *h* helpeth [him.] All say, *that he had got * a just reward of his * rauening. At length he *i* induceth a Crane by many *k* flatteries, and moe promises, *Al.* that her * long necke being thrust into his throat, shee would plucke out the bone fastened [in it] *Al.* But [shee] asking [her] reward, hee mocked [her.] Thou foole, quoth hee, * goe thy way: *l* Hast thou not enough that thou liuest? Thou owest mee [thy] life. If I had listed, * it was in my power to bite off thy neck

g went about.
h did help him, or afford him any helpe.
*Al[men]say often. *him to haue borne. *the price or hire. * deuouring, or greedines
i perswadeth.
k faire words.
Al that she would pluck out the bone fastned in, with her most long neck thrust into his throat.
* longest, or most long.
Al. But he mocked [her] asking [her] reward. * Thou foolish [crane] go or get thee gone. *l* Art thou not well that thou scapest with thy life? * Thou owest thy life vnto me. * If it had listed me. * it had beene lawfull [for me] or I might.

Æor.] It is an * old [prouerbe] that all is lost which thou doest to an vnthankfull [body.]

*a worn, or common [saying] [that hhing] to perish which thou dost to an vnthankfull [man.]

7

Mischievous requiting good with evil

Of a Countrey man and of a Snake, [shewing also the thanke to be looked for from a wicked man.]

A Countrey man brought home * a snake found in the snow almost killed with colde. Hee * layed him to the fire. The Snake receiving strength from the fire, and poyson, and afterwards not * induring / the flame, *m* infected all the * shed with hissing. The country man runneth vnto [him] [and] *snatching vp a stake, *n* expostulateth the iniury with him with words and * stroke. Whether *o* hee requite this thanke? whether *p* hee be about to take away life * from him, * who gaue him [his] life?

* a land snake, or a wood snake.
* cast him to.
* bearing, or not able to abide.
/ the heat of the fire. *m* molested, or indangered to poyson. * poore house, or cottage
* a hedgestake [or cudgil] being snatcheſt, or catched vp. *n* he demandeth, or debateth with him concerning the wrong. * stripes, or blowes. *o* he thus requite him *p* he wil take away. * to him.
* who gaue life to him.

Mor. * It commeth to passe

* It is done.

paſſe ſometimes, that they will doe you an * ill turne, to * whom you haue done good, and that they * will deſerue euilly of you, *r* of whom you haue deſerued well.

* may be againſt you, or hurt you.
*whom you haue profited.
* deſerue.
q requite, or vſe you vnkindly.
r to whom you haue done good.

8

Of a Boare and an Aſſe; teaching to contemne iniuries offered from baſe perſons.

Contempt of iniuries.

a A Son a time a ſluggiſh Aſſe *b* mocked a Boar, hee diſdaining, *c* gnaſhed his] teeth, [ſaying;] O moſt ſluggiſh Aſſe, truly thou hadſt deſerued euill, but although *d* thou haddeſt beene worthy of puniſhment, yet I am * vnmeet * that I ſhould be reuenged of thee. Mocke ſafely, * thou maieſt freely, for thou art ſafe for thy ſluggiſhneſſe.

* whilſt.
a As a dul aſſe, &c
b ſcoffed at.
c whetted his tuſhes.
d thou hadſt deſerued to be plagued. *vnworthy *which may take puniſhment of thee. *being ſafe.
* it is lawfull for thee vnpuniſhed or without puniſhment or danger.

Mor.] Let vs * doe our in-

* giue our diligence.

endeauour, that when we heare or ſuffer things * vnbefitting vs, we ſpeake not, nor doe things * vnbeſeeming vs: for e cuill men and *paſt hope, * doe for moſt part reioyce, if * any good man reſiſt them. * They highly eſteeme of it, * that they ſhould bee accounted worthy f to be auenged of. *Mor.*] Let vs imitate horſes and great beaſts, which paſſe by little dogges barking at them, with contempt [of them.]

* vnworthy of vs

* vnworthy of vs
e naughty.
* loſt, or deſperately euill.
* for moſt part doe reioyce.
* any [man] of good men.
* They way it of great worth.
* themſelues to be accounted worthy reuenge.
f for others to ſeeke to be reuenged of.

9

Of a Citie Mouſe and a Country Mouſe, [ſhewing the feares and dangers that rich men are alwayes in. And that therefore a little with ſafety, is better than abundance with continuall feare and danger.

The bitterneſſe in riches or feares and dangers wherein rich men liue.

IT pleaſed a City Mouſe to walke into the Countrey.

A

A country mouse saw * him, inuiteth [him,] * preparation is made, * they goe to supper. The country mouse fetcheth forth whatsoeuer hee had laid vp against winter, and * bringeth out all his * store, that he might * satisfie the daintinesse of so great a guest. *f* Yet notwithstanding, the Citie mouse * frowning, condemneth the *g* scarsity of the country, *b* and then praiseth the *i* plenty of the citie. [And] going back, he leadeth the country mouse with him into the Citie, that hee might * approue in deed, that which hee had bragged of in words. They goe to the banquet which the City mouse * had gorgeously prepared. * As they were at the banquet, the noyse of a key is heard in the lock. * They trembled, and running, fled away. The country mouse both vnaccustomed, and ignorant of the place,

* this [mouse]
* it is preparad.

*it is gone to sup

* draweth out
* victuals, or prouision.
* fulfill, or fill.
f neuertheleſſe.

* wrinkling his forehead.
g pouerty.
b and afterward.
i abundance.

* giue proofe & experience of that to him

* had prepared richly or excellently. * Between to feast, or their feasting.
* They began to tremble exceedlng, & in flying often to fly away

* hardly ſaued himſelfe. The ſeruant departing, the City mouſe returneth vnto the table, calleth the country mouſe. * Hee, ſcarcely at length hauing put away his feare, creepeth out: [And] asketh the City mouſe * drinking vnto him, whether this *k* perill be often. Hee anſwered, * that it was daily, that it ought to be contemned. Then the * country mouſe, daily, quoth hee? *In good ſooth, youth dainties ſauour more of gall than of hony. I, in truth, *had rather haue my ſcarcity with ſecurity, than this abundance with ſuch * feare.

* to defend himſelfe hardly, or grieuouſly.

* He, his feare being ſcarcely layed away at length.
*inuiting him to the pots.
k danger.
*it to be daily, to owe to be contemned.
* country mouſe ſaid, or replied.
* As Hercules ſhall helpe me.
* will rather, or deſire,
*anxiety, or care dobtfulneſſe, or fearefulneſſe.

Mor.] Riches * haue indeed a ſhew of pleaſure, but if you looke within [them] they haue *l* perils and bitterneſſe. There was one *Eutrapilus*, who when hee would hurt his enemies moſt of all, made them

* indeed do bear before theſelues [or make a ſhew of] pleaſure.
l dangers.

them rich, * saying that hee would * reuenge himselfe of them, for that * they should receiue with their riches * a great packe of m cares.

* saying oft. * reuenge them, [or take vengeance of them] so.
*them to receiue
* a very great, or huge fardle.
m troubles.

10

Of an Eagle and a Iack-daw: warning vs to beware of whom and what counsell we take.

Crafty and deceitfull counsell.

AN Eagle hauing gotten a cockle, could not * pluck out the fish by force, or by art. A Iack-daw comming vnto [her] giues [her] counsell. [Shee] perswadeth [her] n to flye aloft, and * to cast downe the cockle * from an high, vpon the stones: * For that it would so come to passe * that the shell would be broken. The Iack-daw tarrieth vpon the ground, that shee may wait for the fall. The eagle * throweth [it] downe, the shell is broken, the fish is

* pull forth.

n to mount on hy
* to throw down headlong.
* from an high place.
* for so it to be [or come to passe] that.
* the cockle may be broken.
*casteth it down headlong.

o catched vp.

* it grieueth her.

is o ſnatched away by the iack-daw, the eagle being deluded, * grieueth.

* haue faith, or truſt: *viz* truſt not
* whoſoeuer.
* make, or take heed.
* asked counſel of
p conſult, or aduiſe.
* to their conſulters.

Mor.] Doe not * giue credit * to euery one, and * ſee [that] you looke into the counſell which you ſhall receiue of others. For many being * conſulted with, doe not p giue counſell * for them who aske counſell of them, but for themſelues.

II

Of a Crow and a Fox-cub, [aduiſing vs to take heed of being ouer greedy of praiſe.

Greedineſſe of praiſe.

* geſturing, or ietting, or triumphing.
* doth impart [or greet] the crow with very much ſalutation, *viz.* hartily ſaluteth the crow, or ſendeth harty commendations to the crow.
* had heard.

A Crow hauing gotten a prey, maketh a noyſe in the boughes [of a tree.] A Foxe-cubbe ſeeth [him] * vaunting, runneth vnto [him.] The Fox (quoth ſhee) * doth very kindely greet the Crow. I * haue heard very often

ren *q* fame to bee a lyer, now * I finde it in very deed. For as by chance I paſſe by this way, ſpying you a tree, I * come running vnto you, blaming *r* Fame, For the fame is, *that you are clacker than pitch, and I ſee [you] whiter than ſnow. Truly in my iudgement you * ſurpaſſe the Swans, and are fairer then the white ivy. If ſo bee that * as [you excell] in feathers, you ſo excell alſo in voyce, * in truth, I will call you the Queene of all the birds. The Crowe being * allured by this * pretty flatterie, prepares [himſelfe] to ſing. But the Cheeſe falleth out of [his] ſbil * as hee was preparing [to ſing,] which being ſnatched vp, the Fox-cub taketh vp * a lowd laughter. Then at length it ſhames the miſerable Crow, and irketh him of himſelfe, *Al.* and the loſſe of the thing beeing mixed with ſhame, it grieueth

q that fame is a lyar.
* I proue it by experiẽce in the thing it ſelfe.
* beholding, or ſeeing thee.
* flee vnto thee.
r report.
* thee to bee blacker.
* ouercome, *viz.* goeſt beyond.
* you excel ſo alſo in voice, as you doe in feathers.
* I in truth might haue called you, or haue ſaid you to be the queen.
* enuiſed.
* little flattery.
ſ beake.
* to him preparing.
* a laughter, as if he were tickled.
Al. and ſhame being mixed to the loſſe of the thing, he grieued.

grieueth [him.]

t desirous.

Mor.] Some are so t greedy of prayse, that they loue a flatterer with their owne reproach and losse. Such * silly men are [made] a prey to parasites. If so bee that you will *u* auoyd boasting, you may easily * escape [that] pestilent kinde of flatterers. If you will be *Thraso** you shall neuer want a *Gnatho*.

* dwarfes.

u shun.
* thou shalt shun or escape easily.
*Gnatho shal neuer be wanting to thee, or thou shalt neuer want a Gnatho if thou wilt be a Thraso.

12

Of a Lion spent with old age: admonishing vs euer to beware of cruelty, or being ouer fierce in prosperity.

The iust reward of cruelty.

A Lion which had made very many [his] enemies by his *a* fierceneſſe in [his] youth,* paid for it in [his] old age. The beasts *b* requite him like for like, The Boar* setteth on him with his *tush, the Bul *with his hornes. *Especially, the

a cruelty.
* paid punishment
b render him like recompence.
* seeketh [him, or smiteth at him.]
* tooth.
* seeketh [him, or setteth on him)
* with his horne.
*In the first place or aboue all.

the young Asse desiring to *c* abolish vtterly the old name of sluggishnesse, * layeth at him *d* stoutly with words and with [his] heeles. Then the lion * sighing deeply [said,] these whom I haue hurt in times past, hurt [mee] now againe, and * worthily. But they whom I haue *e* sometimes * done good vnto, do not now * doe me good * againe, * yea, euen they * hurt mee without cause. * I was a foole that made [mee] many enemies, [but] more foolish * thee trusted false friends.

Mor.] * Be not lift vp in prosperity, bee not fierce. For if fortune *f* shall change [her] countenance, they whom you haue hurt will *g* auenge [themselues.] And see that you * make a difference amongst [your] friends. For there are * some that are not * your friends, but

c put out.
* insulteth, or leapeth on him, or flingeth at him.
d lustily.
* mourning exceedingly, or lamenting.
* deseruedly.
e heretofore.
* profited.
* profit [me]
* by course.
* yea also they are against me.
* I beene foolish who haue made many enemies. * who haue trusted.
* Thou maist not be lift vp in second [or, prosperous] things, thou maist not be fierce or cruell.
f shall alter, or frowne.
g be reuenged.
* haue, *viz.* put.
* certaine.
* friends of thee but [friends] of thy table and fortune.

but of your table and estate. Which * estate in very deede * so soone as euer it shall be changed they also will be changed: * it shall goe very well with you if they be not enemies. *Ouid* complaineth * justly.

* Loe, I sometimes [was] * guarded * with no small company of friends.

Whilst * the winde blowed prosperously to my sailes.

But after that the *b* fierce seas * began to swell with the *i* stormy winde.

* I am left in the middest of the waters, *k* my ship being all torne.

* fortune.
* as soone as
* it shall be done well with thee if they shall not be enemies.
* worthily.
* Behold.
* fortified, fensed, or inuironed.
* not with a few friends.
* a prosperous wind hath blowē to my sailes, or a prolperous gale of wind. *b* cruell *viz* raging. * haue swelled. *i* tempestuous wind.
* my ship being torne I am left in the middle waters *k*, with my ship all torne.

13

Of a Dog and an Asse, [shewing the foolishnesse of them, who will attempt any thing against nature]

Foolish imitation.

* whilst that

* WHen as of a time dogge

ogge * flattered [his] maſter * did flatter.
nd the *l* family, [both] the *l* houſehold.
aſter and the family *m* che-
ſhed the dogge. The * aſſe *m* made much of or ſtroked.
eing that, *n* groaneth * very * little aſſe.
eply. It began to *o* irke him *n* mourneth, or ſigheth.
[his] * condition: he thinks * more deeply
* vnequally dealt, * that *o* repent him.
e dogge ſhould be welcome * lot.
all, and bee fed from his * [to be] ordered vnequally, or appointed.
aſters table, and alſo *o* at-
ine that by idleneſſe and * the dog to be acceptable to all.
ay, *p* [and] contrarily, him- *o* obtaine, or get.
lfe to carry * packs, be *q* bea- *p* [and] that hee himſelfe ſhould contrarily beare, &c.
n with a whip neuer to bee
le, and yet [to bee] odious * packſaddles.
all. If theſe things * be got- *q* whipped: to be neuer idle, or neuer to reſt.
n by * flattery, hee deter- * be done.
ineth to follow that art * flatteries.
which * is ſo profitable. Ther- * may be.
re * at a certaine time [his] * [his] maſter returning home at a certaine time.
aſter returning home, hee
out to try the matter, runs * feet.
orth to meet [him,] leapes
vpon him] beates [him]
with [his] * hooues. [His] ma-
ſter crying out, the ſeruants
an vnto [him,] and the foo-

liſh

lish asse, which*thought him selfe ciuill, is beaten with r club.

* beleeued.

r staffe, or cudgil.

Mor.] All [of] vs cannot doe all things, as *Virg* saith in [his] *Bucolicks*, neither doe all things become all men. * Let euery one desire that, let him ſ try that which hee is able. For wee know that which is spoken more significantly in Greeke, * An asse to the harpe: So also *Boetius* An asse * set to the harpe Nature resisting, our labour is in vaine. * You shal neither doe nor say any thing if t *Minerua* bee vnwilling * as *Horace* saith.

* Euery one may will that.
ſ assay, or make triall of
* An asse of the harpes, or of the harpe.
* put.
* Thou shalt doe or say nothing, Minerua [or nature] being vnwilling, or against it.
t Minerua the goddesse of wisdome, and of all good arts and sciences, fained to be borne of Iupiters braine without any mother, here taken for nature.
* Horace being witnesse.

14

Of a Lion and a Mouse, [teaching great men to deale kindely with the meanest.

clemeney towards inferiours.

A Lion being weary with heate and with running, rested in the shadow vpon greene leaues: * and a flock of Mise running ouer his backe, hee awaking catched one of them. The captiue beseecheth [him,] cryeth *that hee was not worthy that the Lion should be angry at him. Hee *bethinking him selfe that there was no praise in the death of such a silly little beast, lets goe the *prisoner. And not very long after, as the Lion by chance runnes through the laund, hee falls into nets, * hee may rore, but hee cannot get foorth. The Mouse heareth the Lion roaring miserably, acknowledgeth [his] voyce, creepeth in-

* a greene leafe.
* but.

* one of many of them.
* him to be vnworthy whom the Lion should be angry at.
* thinking seriously. *no praise to be in the death of so very small a little beast.
* captiue or [mouse] being taken.
* Neither truly so much after.
* It is lawfull to rore, it is not lawfull to get out.

to the holes, seeketh the knots of the nets, *a* findeth [them being sought, gnaweth [them being found, the Lion escapeth out of the nets.

a hauing sought them findeth thē, and hauing found them gnaweth them, wherby the lion escapeth out of the nets.

Mor.] This fable perswadeth *x* clemency to mighty men. For as humane things are vnstable, [so] mighty men themselues sometimes need the helpe of the baser. Wherefore a wise man although he may, will bee afraid to hurt any * man whosoeuer. But hee that feareth not to hurt another, *doth exceeding foolishly. Why so? Because although, * trusting in his owne power, hee feareth no man, * it will peraduenture come to passe in time that hee may feare. For it is euident that it hath happened to famous and great kings, that they haue either *y* needed the fauour

x great men to be curteous towards the poore.

*euen any of men

*doateth greatly

*inioying, or relying vpon his owne power.

*It will be peraduenture in time to come.

y stood in need of

*of base men, or z feared their anger.

* vile dwarfes, or men of no reputation.
z beene afraid of their displeasure.

15

Of a sicke Kite, [shewing what sacrilegious and wicked persons can expect from God in their miseries.

Sacrilege, or the miserable state of sacrilegious persons and prophane contemners of God.

A Kite * lay sicke in [his] bed, now *ready to dye. He intreats his mother to goe to pray to the gods. [His] mother answered, that there was no helpe to be hoped for from the gods, whose holy things and alrars he had so oft violated with his rapines.

* lay downe.
* almost dying.

Mor.] It becommeth [vs] to reuerence the gods. For they helpe the godly, * are enemies to the vngodly, being neglected in * prosperity they * will not heare vs in [our] miserie. Wherefore a bee mindefull of them in prosperity, that

* against.
* felicity.
* doe not.
a remember them

they may bee present, being *called vpon *in [our] aduersitie.

*called.
*in aduerse things, or in troubles.

16

Want of consideration for preuenting dangers, and despising counsell.

Of a Swallow and other little Birds, [teaching to vse all aduice, and to preuent dangers in time.]

AS soone as *b* flax began to bee sowen, the Swallow perswadeth the little Birds to hinder the seednesse, telling [them] often, *that there was a conspiracy against them. They laugh at [her,] calling the swallow a foolish prophet. The flaxe now *growing vp and waxing greene, she admonisheth [them] againe to pluck vp that which was sowen. They laugh at [her] again. The flaxe waxeth ripe, she exhorts [them] to destroy *the crop. When they would not heare [her] aduising, no not then indeed, the Swallow *leauing the

b line.

*treacheries to be made to them or prepared for them.

*rising vp.

*the flaxe yet standing.

*the company of birds being left.

the companie of the Birds, gets vnto her selfe the friendship of man, * makes a league with him, dwels together [with him] cheareth [him] with singing. Nets and snares are made for *c* the other birds, of the flax.

* enters.

c the rest of the birds.

Mor,] Many * neither know to * aduise well for themselues,* nor will heare him who aduiseth thē wel. But when they are in perils and losses, then *d* at length they begin to bee wise, and to condemne their owne slothfulnesse. * Now are they wise enough. This, say they, & that ought * to haue beene done. But it is better to be *Prometheus* than *Epimetheus*. These * were brethren. *e* The names are Greek. * One of them took counsell before the thing [to be done,] the other after it: which the interpre-

* neither know themselues.
* consult wisely to themselues.
* nor do heare [a man] giuing [thē] counsell well.
d onely.
* Now is there enough and ouermuch counsell.
* to be done.
Prometheus wise before.
Epimetheus wise after.
* haue beene.
e They are Greek names.
* Counsell hath beene to one [of them] before the thing, to the other after the thing.

tation of [their] names doth declare.

Discontentednesse with our present estate.
* the king of the.

17

*Of Frogs and * their king, [warning vs to be content with our present estate.]*

* it made supplication to Iupiter a King to be giuen them.
ridere pro ridebat; Enallage.
f wishes, prayers, or requests.
g very importunate.
* He cast down a blocke [to them]
b a beame.
i shakes vehemently, * riuer, flood, or fen. *k* affrighted. *l* are hush.
* reuerence, worship, or honour.
* foot by foot.
* feare being cast away.
* leape.
m blockish.
* is a sport.

VVHen the nation of the Frogs was free, * they besought *Iupiter* to giue them a king. *Iupiter* laughed [at] the *f* desires of the Frogs. They notwithstanding, were *g* instant again and againe, vntill they inforced him. * Hee casts [them] downe *b* a blocke. That vaste weight *i* shakes the * water with a huge crash. The frogs being *k* terrified, *l* are silent. They * adore [their] king. They come nearer * by little and little; at length * casting away feare, they * bounce vpon [him,] and down againe [from him.] The *m* sluggish King * is made a scorne and a con-

contempt. They * importune *Iupiter* againe, they * beseech [him] * to giue them a king, which may be stout; *Iupiter* giues them a Storke. He walking through the *n* fen very stoutly, deuoureth * what Frogges soeuer * he meeteth with. * The Frogs then complained all in vaine af the cruelty of this [king;] *Iupiter* * heareth [them] not. For * they as yet complaine euen at this day. For the storke going to bed at euening, they * comming forth * of their dens, doe * secretly complaine with a hoarse * croking, but they sing * to a deafe man. For * *Iupiter* will haue it so, that they * which prayed against a *o* gentle king, * should now endure * one mercilesse.

Mor. It is wont to *p* fall out to the common people euen as to the Frogs. Who if * they haue a king * somewhat

* proueke, or instantly beseech.
* they pray.
* a King to be giuen [them]
n marsh, or marish ground.
* whatsoeuer of frogs * is before him, or in his way
* Therefore the frogs &c.
* doth not heare
* they complaine also as yet to day
* gone forth, or going forth * out of their holes.
* murmure * howling, or crying.
* to [one] deafe, or [God Iupiter being] deafe. Iupiter will,] or Iupiters pleasure is]
* which refused by supplication, or turned away by intreaty. *o* milde
* shold bear now * [a King] void of cõpassion, or pitty. *p* betide, or happen. * it hath * a little more gẽtle

what more milde, * they charge [him] to be sluggish and *q* cowardly, and * wish that at length * they may haue *r* a man. [And] contrarily if at any time * they get a stout king, * they condemne * his cruelty, [and] praise the clemency of the former, whether for that * we always mislike our present estate; or * because it is a true word, * That new things are better than old.

* it alleageth.
q without valour, or courage. * it wisheth sometimes a man to happen vnto them * to fall out vnto them.
r a man of worth or of spirit.
* it, *viz.* the people hath gotten
* it condemneth.
* the cruelty of this.
* it alwaies repeteth vs of things present.
* that it is.
* New things to be better thã old *Discontentednesse with our present estate.*

18

Of Pigions and the Glead, [shewing what commonly followeth discontentednesse with our estate.]

* Pigions on a time made warre with the Kite: whom that they might * conquer, they *s* chose the *t* Hawke * [for] their king. Hee being made [their] king, * playeth the *u* enemie, not a king. Hee * plucketh

* Doues.
* vanquish.
s did chuse.
t goshawke.
* a king to them.
* doth.
u tyrant.

plucketh and teareth them
peeces, * no leſſe greedily
han the Kite. It repenteth
he Pigeons of [their] enter-
riſe, thinking it * had beene
tter [for them] to * endure
he warres of the Kite, than
e tyranny of the hawke.

* ſnatcheth.
* no ſlothfuller, or ſlower.
* to haue been.
* ſuffer.

Mor.] Let it irke no man too much of his owne * condition : [for] (* as *Horace* ſaith) nothing is euery way bleſſed. *x* I in very deed *would not wiſh my *y* lot to be changed, ſo that it be tolerable. Many *hauing gotten a new *z* lot, haue wiſhed the old againe. * That is the nature almoſt of vs all, that we are diſcontent with our eſtate.

* lot.
* Flaccus, *viz.* Horace being witneſſe, nothing is bleſſed on euery part, or on all parts.
x I in truth.
* may not.
y eſtate, or condition.
* a new lot being gotten.
z condition.
* all for the moſt part [or the moſt of vs all] are ſo in wit [or diſpoſition] that it repents ourſelues of vs.

Flattery and deceipt.

Of a Theefe and a Dogge, [teaching to beware of flatterers.]

*A dog answered somtimes a thiefe reaching bread [to him] that he may be silent.
*I haue knowne thy lyings in wait
* whereby I may cease to barke.

* A Theefe of a time reaching bread to a dog that hee would hold his peace, the dogge answered, * I know thy treachery. Thou giuest [mee] bread * that I should leaue off barking. But I hate thy gift: becauſe if I ſhall take [thy] bread, thou wilt carry away al things * out of theſe houſes.

* from theſe roofs of the houſee, or from vnder theſe roofes,

*Take heed thou loſe.
* for the cauſe of a little cõmodity
* you haue truſt to euery one whõ you pleaſe.
* doe not ſpeake bountifully, but alſo do beũtifully
* by deceipt, or in craft.

Mor.] * Beware you loſe [not] a great [commodity] * for a ſmall commodities ſake. Take heed * you truſt [not] euery man. For there are [men] who will not only ſpeake curteouſly, but alſo deale kindly, * onely with purpoſe to deceiue.

Of

20

a Wolfe and b a young sow, teaching vs to beware of them who are too officious.]

Too much officiousnesse.

b a sow.

A Young Sow was about to *c* pigge. A Wolfe profeseth * that hee will bee the keeper of [her] *e* young. The Sow answered, * that she had no need of the seruice of the Wolfe: If he * would be accounted * deuout, [and] * if he desire to doe her a kindenesse, * that he would get him further off. * For that the kindnesse of the Wolfe should consist not in [his] presence, but in [his] absence.

c farrow.

* himselfe to be

d tender.

e pigs.

* *Puerpera* signifying a woman trauelling, or in childe bed, here put for a sow pigging. * her selfe not to need the pliantnesse [or attendance.] * will be. * godly, or courteous.

* if he couet to do an acceptable thing, or a pleasure * that he go away further.

Mor.] * Wee are not to giue credit to all things which euery one saith. * Many will promise their helpe, not for the loue of

*for the office or seruice of the wolfe to consist.

* All things are not to be credited to all men. * Many do promise their diligence not by, or for the loue of you, but of themselues.

you

you, but of themselues seeking their owne commodity, * not yours.

* not your [commodity.]

21

Boasting and vaine feare.

Of the bringing forth of mountaines, [teaching to beware of fooliſh boaſting and vaine feares.]

IN time paſt there was rumour * that the mountaines brought forth. Men ran vnto [them,] ſtand round about, expecting ſome monſter, not without feare. At length the mountaines bring forth, a mouſe * creepeth out. Then all [the beholders] * die almoſt die with laughter.

* the mountains to be about to bring forth, or to be in trauell.

* goeth forth.
* all to dye with laughter. *emori, pro emorie-bantur*; *Enall.*

Mor.] *Horace* toucheth this * pretty fable. The mountaines * are in trauell, quoth hee, * a ridiculous Mouſe will bee *ſ*bred. But hee noteth boaſting. For boaſters when they profeſſe

* little.
* are about to bring forth.
* mouſe to be laughed at.
ſ borne.

and * make ostentation of great matters, scarcely * performe small. Wherefore those * *Thrasoes* are * iustly a matter of iest & * scorne. This fable doth also forbid vaine feares. For the feare of the *g* perill is for the most part greater then the peril [it selfe:] yea, it is [oft] ridiculous which we feare.

* boast of.
* do little things
* vain-glorious boasters, such as Thraso.
* by right.
* scoffes.
g danger.

12

* h *a hound* * *despised of his master, [shewing the nature of ingratitude, and that nothing is loued but that which bringeth commodity.*

Ingratitude.

A Master hastens on [his] hound, which * was now waxen old. He * calls on him vaine. [His] feet are slow, he * maketh no haste. Hee had caught a wilde beast, the beast slips away from *k* [him] being toothlesse. His master

* a hunting dog.
b a greyhound.
* which is cõtemned of his master
* now had waxen old.
* exhorts him.
* hasteth not.
i catched, or laid hold on.
k [the dog or his mouth] being toothlesse.

* rates

* rebukes, or chides him.
*a strok, or stripe
* a word.
* it to owe to be pardoned to him by right.
*but being yong to haue bin stout
* fruit.
*haue loued [me]
*you haue hated [me,]
*catching preyes
l kinde.
m once or sometimes.
* for the cause of thrift, or of [your] commodity.
* fruitfull.

* rates him with *strokes and with * words. The dogge answered *that he ought of right to be pardoned; that now he was becomne old, * but that hee had beene stout when he was young. But as I see, quoth hee, nothing pleaseth without * commodity. You *loued [me] being young; * you hate [me] now becomne old. You loued [me] * bringing preyes, you hate [mee now] slow and toothlesse. But if you were *l* thankful, whom you loued *m* in times past, being yong * for [your] commodity sake you would loue [now] being old for the cause of his * profitable youth.

* Naso, or Ouid being witnesse.
* deare.
* profits.

Mor.] The dogge [said] well. For * as *Ouid* saith Nothing is *loued but that which *brings commodity. Behold, take away from a greedy minde the hope of commodity, no bo

* W

* will be ſought for. There is no remembrance of a cō-modity paſt, and the fauour of a future [commoditie] not great, the chiefeſt [thankfulnes] is * for a pre-ſent commodity. Indeed it is * a ſhame to bee ſpoken, but if we confeſſe onely the truth, The common ſort doth approue * friendſhip by [their] commodity.

* will be to be required.
* of.
* a filthy thing.
*friendſhips.

23

Of Hares and Frogs [ſetting forth the folly of timerouſneſſe, and the neceſſity of courage in perils.]

Timerouſneſſe.

A Wood * roaring [on a time] with an * vnaccuſtomed *n* whirle-winde, the trembling Hares beginne *o* flye away *p* ſwifty. [But] as they were flying, * when as there was a fenne in their way, they ſtood doubtfull, * incloſed with perils on both ſides. And

* bellowing.
*vnwonted.
n ſtorme.
o run away.
p ſpeedily.
* when a fen, or mariſh ground hindered them.
*comprehended.

* an incitement, or cause.
* to be drowned

And which was a * pronocation of greater feare, they saw frogs * drowned in the fenne. Then one of the hares wiser & more eloquent then the rest,

* what, quoth he doe we feare.
* vainely.
* a minde.
* nimbleneſſe of body is indeed to vs, but a courage is wanting.
* but it is to be contemned.

* said, why do we feare * without cause? we haue need of a * courage: * wee haue indeed nimbleneſſe of body, but wee want heart. This danger of the whirle wind [is] not to be fled, * but to be contemned.

Mor.] There is need of courage in euery matter. Vertue without *q* confidence *, lyeth vnder foot, for confidence is the * leader and queene of vertue.

q boldneſſe, or courage
* lyeth downe.
* captaine, or guide.

24

Of a Kid and a Wolfe, [teaching children to obey their parents.]

Obedience to parents.

VVHen as on a time, a goat was * to goe to feed, ſhee ſhut vp her Kid home

* about to goe, or to paſture.

home, warning * him to open to no body, vntill she her selfe returned. The Wolfe which * heard that a farre off, * after his damme was gone, knocks at the doores, ſ imitates the goate in voyce, commanding [the doores] to bee * opened. The Kid * perceiuing the * treachery, * I will not open them quoth hee: for although the voyce * be the goats voyce, yet indeed I see a Wolfe though the t chinks.

*it to be opened

* had heard.
* beats on the pores after the departure of his mother.
ſ cryes like the goat.
* vnshut.
* foreunderstanding.
* deceit or guile.
* said, I doe not open.
* imitate the goats.
t clifts.

Mor. [For] children to obey their parents, is profitable to themselues, and it becommeth a young man to * hearken to an old

* obey an old [man.]

25

Of * a Stag and a Sheep, [shewing that extorted promises are not to be kept.

Extorted promises not to be kept.
* a hart.

A Stagge * accuseth a sheep before a Wolfe, * clamoring

* made guilty.
* crying out, [or complaining cla-

morously] her to owe.
* it is also taken for half a bushell or a pecke and a halfe, or somwhat lesse then a peck
* The sheep indeed, or was indeed vnknowing.
* promiseth her self to giue it, for the presence of the wolfe.
* A day is spoken [or appointed] to payment.
* it is present.
* warns the sheep
* for she excuseth that thing [to haue bin] done for feare, which she had promised
w a promise, or vow wrested from any one.
* an extorted vow not to be kept.
* driue backe.
* force by force.
w refute or confute.

ring [against her] that she ought him * a bushell of wheat. * But the sheepe was ignorant of the debt. Yet neuertheleſſe, * for the presence of the Wolfe, promiseth that shee would giue it. * There is a day appointed for payment * it comes. The Stagge * puts the sheepe in minde [of the debt.] Shee denyeth it. * For what [she] had promised, she excuseth it done by feare, and for the presence of the wolfe [and] w* that an extorted promise was not to be kept.

Mor.] The sentence of the law is, It is lawfull to * repell * violence by violence. From this little fable a certain new sentence doth arise. [That] it is lawfull to w refell deceit by deceit.

26

Of a countrey-man and a snake, [teaching vs to learne wit by that which is past:]

Giuing credit againe to them who haue deceiued vs;

A Certaine Countrey-man had *bred vp a Snake. And] being angry of a time, nit* him with [his] hatchet. he escapeth away not without wound. Afterwards the cou-ey-man *x* comming to po-erty, supposed that *y* misfor-une* to betide him for the niury done to the snake. He therefore beseecheth the nake, that he* would returne. ee saith* that he would par-n it, but that he would not turne :* neither that hee ould be secure *al.* with the ountrey-man. * who had at ome such a great hatchet. That the blewnesse of the ound was gone, yet the re-embrance still remai ned.

* nourished, or brought vp.
* the beast.
x falling.
y mishap.
*to fal, or chance vnto him.
*of the snake.
*Therfore he beseecheth. * may returne. *himself to pardon it, but to be vnwilling to returne. *neither to be safe. *al.* when as there was to the country-man, &c. * to whom there was so great a hatchet at home. *The blewnesse of the wound to haue ceased, yet the remembrance to remaine, or be left.

Mor.] It is scarce safe * to giue credit to him a gaine, who * hath once broken [his] credit. Indeed to pardon an iniury, * is verily a point of mercy. But * to looke to a man selfe * is both befitting, and * a point of wisdome.

*to haue trust, or to trust.
* hath loosed his faith, or fidelity once.
*is truly of mercy
* to beware to himselfe.
* doth become.
* is of wisedome.

27

Of a fox-cub and a Storke, [teaching that deceit deserues to be rewarded with deceit.]

The reward of deceit.

A Fox-cub [of a time]* inuited a Storke to Supper. Shee powreth out the meate vpon the Table : the which *whereas it was thin, the stork assaying in vayne with her bill, the * cubbe licketh vp [all.] The bird goeth away deluded, it both shameth and irketh [her]* for the iniury. After * a few dayes * she returneth, inuiteth the cub. There

* called.

* when as it was liquid.
* beake, or nib.
* fox cub.
* of the.
*somewhat more of daies.
* the storke returneth.

was set a glasse * viall full of meate; which viall whereas it was of a narrow throat, the Fox might see the meat, and also hunger, but shee might not taste. [But] the storke easily drew vp all with her bill.

* vessell.

*it was lawful for the fox to see &c.

Mor.] * Mocking [deserues] mocking, iest [deserues] iest, * deceit, deceit; and fraud deserues fraud.

* laughter.

* deceit [deserues] deceit.

28

Of a Wolfe and a painted head, shewing the vanity of outward faireneſſe, without inward beauty.]

Outward fairenes without inward beauty.

OF a time] a Wolfe a turned oft [vp and downe] mans head * which hee found in a carners shop, wonders at [it,] thinking that which was [indeed,]* that it had no sense. O faire head, quoth he, * thou hast * much art in thee, * but no sense.

a turned about oft

* being found in the shop of a grauer, or caruer.

* it to haue no sense.

* there is much art [skil, or cunning] in thee.

* much of art.

* nothing of sens

* Externall faire-nes is acceptable * inward beauty. * to it. * we must want.

Mer.] * Outward beauty is pleasing, if the * inward bee present * with it. But if * wee are to want either of them, it is better that you want the * outward than the inward; for, the without this doth sometime *b* incurre hatred, that a foole * is so much more odious the fairer he is.

*outward beauty

b bring, or get hatred.

* is more odious by so much, by how much he is fairer.

29

Foolish pride of those things which are none of ours.

Of a Cornish chough, [shewing how foolish it is to be proud of other bodies feathers.]

*somewhat faire, or a faire one. * his owne kind, [or stocke] being disdained. * stock or kind. * the deceit being vnderstood. * made naked. * affected him with strokes, or beat him.

A Chough [of a time] tricked vp himselfe with the feathers of a Peacocke. And then seeming to himself * very gay, * disdaining his owne kinde, hee betooke himselfe to the * company of the peacocks. They at length * vnderstanding the deceit, * stript the foolish bird of [his] colours, and * whipped him.

Horace

* *Horace* in his first booke of Epistles reports this little fable of a jackdaw. Hee saith, that of a time, a jackdaw being * trimmed with feathers *which thee had gathered together, which had fallen from [other] birds, after that euery one of the birds pluckt againe her owne feather, * became ridiculous. Left if perchance the flocke of birds shall come * hereafter, to fetch againe their owne feathers, *the jackdaw moue laughter, beeing stript of [her] stollen colours.

* Horace shewes this little fable of a iackdaw in his first book of, &c.

* adorned, or tricked vp.

* gathered together.

* to haue beene ridiculous.

*in time to come

* the daw made naked of [her] stollen colours, moue [or prouoke] laughter,

Mor.] This fable * taxeth them, who beare themselues more loftily than is meet: who liue with them who are both richer and more noble. * Whereupon they are oft-times made poore *and a scorne. *Iuvenal* admonisheth well; This sentence descended from heauen, γνῶθι σεαυτὸν, that

* noteth.

* Wherefore.

* and are a scorn [or mocking-stocke.]

is, Know thy selfe.

30

Of a Fly and an * *Ant, [teaching vs to vse good language to all, and to preferre the quiet kind of life.]*

The quiet life to be preferred.
* pismire.

A Fly [of a time] c wrangled with an Ant, [bragging] * that shee was noble, * the other base, * that she did flye, the Ant crept, * that she vsed to bee in kings houses: the other to lye hid in holes, to knaw corn, to drink water: shee bragged * that shee fared daintily, and yet notwithstanding, that she got these things by idlenesse. * Of the other side, the Ant [gloried] that shee was not * base, but content with her owne * degree. * that the flye was a vagrant, she her selfe was * abiding in a place, * and that corne and * running water did taste as well to the Ant, as pasties and wine to the Fly,

c contended.
* her selfe to be noble.
* her ignoble.
* her self to flee, her [or the pismire] to creepe
* her selfe to be conuersant in the roofes, *viz.* the houses of kings. * her selfe to banquent gorgeously, and yet to get thes things by idlenes. * contrarily, * ignoble
* stocke or pedegree. * the flye to be wandring.
* stable. * graines of corne. * the streame to sauour t ethe Ant that which pasties and wine to the flye.

ly, *and that shee got these
ings not by sluggish idle-
esse, but by d stout labour.
lortouer, * that the Ant was
erry and safe, * beloued of
l, and to conclude, an exam-
e of labour: * that the Fly
s fearefull, alwaies in perill,
oublesome to all, enuied* of
l; and finally, an example of
thfulnesse. e The Ant bee-
g mindefull of winter to lay
food [aforehand] the Fly
line for a day, either to bee
ntinually hungry, or cer-
inely to dye in winter.

*and to get these things.
d lusty, or painfull diligence.
* the ant to be merry and safe.
* deare to all.
* the flye to be doubtfull with perill. * to all.
e That the ant did thinke of winter aforehand, and layed vp food against it, but that the flye had prouision but for the present, either to be ready to starue in winter, or certainly to dye.

Mer.] He that f proceeds to say what hee will, shall heare what hee will not. If the Fly had spoken wel, she had heard weil. But I consent to the Ant. For an obscure life with security, seemeth to be more to be wished, than a * glorious life with perill.

f goeth on.

* shining, or glittering.

Of

Foolish emulation. *Of a Frog and an Oxe, [shew the fruit of foolish emulation.]*

* of matching an oxe.

A Frog being desirous * match an Oxe, stretch out her selfe. [g Her] son horted [his] mother to de from her enterprize, for a Frog was nothing to an Shee swelled the second ti [her] son * cryeth [vnto h Mother, * you may bu [but] you shall neuer o come the Oxe. And wh [shee] had swelled the th time, she burst.

g The yong frog perswadeth the dam.

*a frog to be nothing to an oxe.

* cryeth often, or cryeth out.

* although yon cracke.

Mor.] * Euery one h his owne gift. This m [excels] in beauty, *b* hee strength: this in riche excels in friends. It bec meth euery man to be co tent with his owne pro [gift] He * is able of bod tho

* His owne gift is to euery one.

b another.

*preuailes in body, thou in wit.

thou in wit. Wherefore let euery one * aduise with himselfe [and] let him neither enuy [his] superiour, * which is miserable, nor let him * desire to striue [with him,] which is [* a part] of foolishnesse.

*take ceunsell of himselfe, or consider himselfe.
*which thing is miserable.
* wish.
* the property of fooliſhneſſe, or folly.

32

Of a Horse and a Lion, [teaching that an enemy i counterfeiting friendship, is most dangerous: and that crafty dealing is vsually requited with craft.]

Counterfeit friendship, with the reward of subtilty.

i pretending, or making a shew.

A Lion [of a time] came to eate a horse; but wanting strength * by reason of his age, hee began to deuise [some] cunning: hee professeth himselfe a physician; holds the Horse with a long circumstance of words. The horse *k* opposeth deceit to deceit, and * cunning to cunning. Hee faineth * that hee had lately pricked [his] foote in

* for his old age.
* meditate art.
*staies, or delaies or drawes on the horse. *circumlocution of words, or with many fair words. * He. *k* vseth deceit against deceit.
*art * himselfe to haue pricked [his] foot lately in a thorny place

in a thorny place, intreated that *l* the physician looking into it, * would draw out the thorne. The lion * yeelded vnto him. But the horse * with all the might he could, * smote at the lion with his heele, and * forthwith betooke himself to his feet. The Lion very hardly comming to himself againe at length, (for he * was almost * in a swoone by the blow) I * beare away (quoth he) a [iust] reward for [my] foolishnesse, and he is * rightly fled away. For he hath revenged deceit with deceit.

l the lion being so good a physician.

* may draw, or pull out. * obeyeth [him] * with how great might he could, or was able. * dasht his heele to the lion. * cast himselfe forthwith vnto his feet. * had beene. * astonished, or amazed, or swooned almost. * beare, or haue. * by right.

Mor.] * Dissembling is worthy hatred, and to be catched with dissembling. An enemy is not to be feared which * shewes himselfe an enemy. But hee that faines good wil when as he is an enemy, is * indeed to be feared, and most worthy hatred.

* dissimulation, or counterfeiting

* shewes before himselfe.

* at length is.

33

A horse and an asse, [shewing how commonly falls out with them who are too insolent in their prosperity.]

Insolency of proud men in their prosperity.

A Horse [of a time] * adorned with trappings, and with a saddle, ran by the way with a very great *m* neying. But by chance * a loaden asse hindred him as hee was running. The horse *n* raging with anger, and * fiercely chewing [his] foaming bridle: What, quoth hee, thou slowe, thou sluggish [asse,] doest thou hinder the horse? *o* Giue place, I say, or * I will trample thee with my feet. The Asse contrarily not daring to bray, * giues place quietly. But *as the horse was swiftly flying forward, and speeding his pase [his] *groine burst. Then being * vnfit for running and shew, hee is * stript of [his] * furniture.

* trimmed, or set out. *m* whinnying. * a little asse being loaden stood against [him] [or in his way] running. *n* fuming, or storming. * being fierce biting on the froathing bridles. * stand against the horse, or stand in the horses way. *o* depart. * I do tread vpon thee. * departs, or, yeelds stilly, or being still, giues place. *the horse flying forward. * the part of the belly about the sheath. * vnprofitable. * spoyled. * ornaments.

ture, and afterwards is sold t
p carter. a p car-man. Afterwards th
* little asse. * asse seeth him q com
q drawing in a car or a cart, with a carre, and speake
to him: Hoe good sir, wh
fine furniture is there? where
is your golden saddle, [your]
* bossed, * studded girth? where [is]
* shining, or fine your * glittering bridle? O
friend it must needs so fall ou
to [you] being [so] proud.

Mor.] Most men are lif
vp in prosperity, neither
r remembring, r mindefull of themselues
nor of modesty. But be-
cause they waxe insolent in
prosperity, they run into
aduesity. I * would admo-
* would haue ad- nish them to be ſ wary who
monished, ſ heedy. seeme [to themselues] to
* happy. bee * in prosperity. For if
the wheele of fortune shall
be turned about, they shall
* feele it. * perceiue it a most mise-
rable kinde of misfortune,
* happy. to haue beene * in prospe-
rity. That mischiefe also

* is

*is added vnto the heape of their vnhappineſſe, that they ſhall bee contemned of thoſe, whom * they haue contemned, and thoſe will mocke them whom they themſelues haue laughed at.

* commeth

*they themſelues

t mocked,

34

The birds and foure footed beaſts, [ſhewing what it is to leaue our friends in aduerſity.]

The theeues ſorſaking of friends.

THe birds of a time had a battell with the foure-ooted beaſts. [There was] ope on both ſides, * feare n both ſides, [and] danger as on both ſides. But the r*leauing his fellowes, *fals f to the enemy. The birds ercome, * hauing the Eagle their captaine and *leader. nd they*adiudge the * tray-orlike Bat * that ſhee ſhould

* A battell was to the birds, or the birds fought.
* feare [was] on both ſides.

*[his]fellows being left.*faileth or falleth away.
* the eagle being their captain,&c
* ſouthſayer.
* condemne.
*flyer to the enemy or runagate.

that there ſhould not be euer a returning [for her] nto the birds.

neuer

neuer returne vnto the bi
that * shee should neuer fly
the day time. * This is
cause that the Bat neuer fly
but in the night.

*Mor.] Hee that refus
to bee partaker of adue
ty and perils with his f
lowes, shall bee u with
prosperity and safety [w
them.]

* there be no flying to [her] in the light. * This is the cause to the Bat, that she doth not fly but in the night.

u without part of prosperity and health [with thē.]

35

The reward of enuy.

Of a Wolfe and a Fox, [declari the fruit of enuy.]

x prey enough.
y idely.
z fox.
a asketh.
b why he was idle.
* deceits, [or layings in waits] to be made to his
* feasts.
* faineth, or diſſēblerh a diſeaſe to, &c. * to pray earneſtly, or intreat the gods for pardon,

WHen as of a time
wolfe had x ſufficie
prey, hee liued y in idlenes
The z fox-cub commeth v
to him, a demandeth [of him
b the cauſe of [his] idlenes
The Wolfe perceiued * th
there was a plot laid for h
*dainties, * pretendeth ſickn
to bee the cauſe, intreats th
fox to goe * to pray vnto th
god

ods for him. Shee grieuing that her wile had no better ceeſſe, goeth vnto a ſheepeard. * tels him that the den of the Wolfe was open, and that the enemy being ecure, might eaſily be *c* taken nawares. The ſhepheard *d* ſets pon the Wolfe, kils him. hee obtaines [both] the den nd the prey. But * ſhee had ut a ſhort ioy of her wickedneſſe, for * not very long after he ſame ſhepheard catcheth her alſo.

* her wile [or craft] not to ſucceed. * admoniſheth him [or puts him in mind] the dens of the Wolf to ly open. * for the enemy being ſecure to be able to be oppreſſed [or ouercome] not thinking of it
c ſurprized.
d comes vpon, or inuades the wolf of a ſudden.
* there was but a ſhort ioy to her of her wickednes
* ot ſo much after.
e the fox alſo.

Mor.] Enuy is a *f* filthy thing, and ſometimes *g* pernicious euen to the author himſelfe. * *Horace* in [his] firſt booke of Epiſtles,

An enuious [man] * pineth away at the * proſperity of * another.

The Sicilian tyrants found not a greater torment than enuy.

f a foule matter.
g miſchieuous.
* *Flaccus.*
* waxeth leane.
* fat things, or plenty.
* another man.

Desire of things hurtfull.

Of a stag, [shewing that we commonly desire such things as are most hurtfull for vs.]

b a hart,

A Stag [of a time] *viewing himselfe in a very cleare *i* fountaine, approues *his high & branching horns, but condemnes the smalnesse of his *shankes. By chance, *as hee is viewing and iudging himselfe, the hunter *comes in the meane time: * Hee fleeth more * swiftly than darts, *and the Eastwind, driuing the * shoures. The dogges *pursue [him] fleeing. But when as hee * entered into a very thicke wood, [his] hornes are * intangled in the *k* boughes, and then *l* at length hee praised his *m* legs, and condemned [his] hornes, which *caused him to become a prey vnto the dogs.

* beholding.
i spring, or water.
*the tal [or long] and branched hornes of his forehead.
* legs.
* whilst he beholds, whilst he iudgeth.
*comes between.
* The stag flyeth away.
* swift. * and more swift than the East wind.
*great raine, or stormes.
* earnestly follow, or chase.
* had entered.
* wrapped.
k branches.
l at last.
m shanks.
* made that he should be [or was]

Mor.]

Mor.] We desire things to bee * auoyded, and wee n flee the things which are to bee desired. [Those things] please [vs] which hurt [vs,] and those things displease [vs] which * doe vs good. Wee * desire blessednesse, before we vnderstand where it is. We seeke the excellency of riches, and the o lostinesse of honours: wee thinke blessednesse * to consist in these things, in which, notwithstanding, there is much labour and griefe. That our * harping Poet p signifieth * notably.

The q huge pine tree * is more often tossed with the windes, and the r lofty towers fal downe with the greater fall.

* The lightnings also smite the highest mountaines.

* fled,
n shun.
* profit,
* conet.
o statelinesse.
* to be set,
* Poet making songs to be sung to the harpe.
p expresseth.
* fairely.
q great.
* is tossed more often.
r high, or stately.
* And the lightnings, or thunderbolts.

Deſire of things hurtfull.
h a hart,

Of a ſtag, [ſhewing that we commonly deſire ſuch things as are moſt hurtfull for vs.]

A Stag [of a time] *viewing himſelfe in a very cleare *i* fountaine, approues *his high & branching horns, but condemnes the ſmalneſſe of his *ſhankes. By chance, *as hee is viewing and iudging himſelfe, the hunter *comes in the meane time: * Hee fleeth more * ſwiftly than darts, *and the Eaſt wind, driuing the * ſhoures. The dogges *purſue [him] fleeing. But when as hee * entered into a very thicke wood, [his] hornes are * intangled in the *k* boughes, and then *l* at length hee praiſed his *m* legs, and condemned [his] hornes, which *cauſed him to become a prey vnto the dogs.

* beholding.
i ſpring, or water.
*the tal [or long] and branched hornes of his forehead.
*legs.
* whilſt he beholds, whilſt he iudgeth.
*comes between.
* The ſtag flyeth away.
* ſwift. * and more ſwift than the Eaſt wind.
*great raine, or ſtormes.
* earneſtly follow, or chaſe.
* had entered.
* wrapped.
k branches.
l at laſt.
m ſhanks.
* made that he ſhold be [or was]

Mor.]

Mor.] We desire things to bee * auoyded, and wee n flee the things which are to bee desired. [Those things] please [vs] which hurt [vs,] and those things displease [vs] which * doe vs good. Wee * desire blessednesse, before we vnderstand where it is. We seeke the excellency of riches, and the o loftinesse of honours: wee thinke blessednesse * to consist in these things, in which, notwithstanding, there is much labour and griefe. That our * harping Poet p signifieth * notably.

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* fled,
n shun.
* profit,
* coueт.
o statelinesse.
* to be set,
* Poet making songs to be sung to the harpe.
p expresseth.
* fairely.
q great.
* is tossed more often.
r high, or stately.
* And the lightnings, or thunderbolts.

Foolish opposition against them who are too hard for us

Of a viper and a file, [teaching vs to meddle with our match.]

A Viper [of a time] finding a file in a ſ ſhop, began to gnaw [it.] The file ſmiled, * ſaying, What foole? what doeſt thou? Thou * mayeſt weare out thy teeth, before thou canſt weare mee, which am wont to bite vpon the hardneſſe of braſſe.

ſ worke houſe:

* what, quoth it, thou foole?
* ſhalt weare thy teeth to thee.

Mor.] See * carefully with whom * you haue to doe. If you * whet your teeth againſt * a ſtronger, you ſhall not hurt him, but your ſelfe.

* againe & again
* the matter is to you.
* ſharpen:
* ſtronger man.

Of

38

Of Wolues and Lambs, [teaching vs to beware how wee truſt our enemies, deliuering out of our hands the meanes of our ſafety.]

Fooliſh depriuing our ſelues of the meanes of our ſafety ſo laying our ſelues open to the enemy.

THere * was * of a time a ‡ league * betweene the Wolues and Lambes, * which naturally doe diſagree; * hoſtages being giuen on both ſides. The wolues gaue their ⁂ whelps, ✕ the ſheep the company of their dogges. The ſheepe being quiet & feeding, the * young wolues * howle out for the deſire of [their] * dams. Then the ɣ Woules ruſhing in [vpon them] * cried out, complayning that they had broken [their] fidelity and the * league, and tare in peeces the ſheepe, being left deſtitute of the ≈ ayd of [their] dogges.

* hath beene.
* ſometimes.
‡ truce.
* to the wolues and lambs.
* to which there is diſcord by nature
* pledges in war.
⁂ young ones.
✕ the ſheep [gaue] the band.
* little wolues.
* vtter howlings.
* mothers.
ɣ old wolues.
* cried out often-times [their] fidelity & the league to be diſſolued.
* couenant of peace.
≈ garriſon, or defence.

*If you deliuer your garrisons to the enemy in a league, it is vnskilfulnesse, or folly.

Mor.] * It is a foolishnes if in a truce you deliuer the meanes of your safety to the enemy. For hee that hath been an enemy, hath not yet perchance left off to bee an enemy: yea, peraduenture he will take an * occasion, * that hee may set vpon you being destitute of succour.

* cause.
* wherefore he may come vpon you of a sudden being naked, [or destitute] of ayd [or defence.]

Gratifying our enimies to our hurt.

39

Of a wood and a countrey man. [*teaching vs to beware wherin and how we gratifie our enemies*]

* their owne [or proper] speech was to the trees.

* that it may be lawfull to take a halme, or stoale
* noddeth vnto it
* his hatchet being fitted.
b but.

AT what time * the trees spake, a country-man came vnto a wood, desiring * that he might take a helue for his hatchet. The wood * assenteth vnto [him.] The country-man * hauing fitted his hatchet, beganne to cut downe the trees. Then b and indeed too late it repented the wood

wood of her *c* facility. It grieued her to * haue beene the cause of her owne destruction.

c readinesse to yeeld, or be intreated.
* be.

Mor.] *d* See of whom you deserue well. There haue beene many, who *hauing receiued a benefit, haue abused it * to the destruction of the *e* authour.

d Take heed.
* a benefit being receiued.
* vnto.
e giuer.

40

*Of the * limmes and the belly, [declaring the necessity of gratifying others.]*

Necessity of friendship, and gratifying others.
* members or parts of the body or ioynts.

THe foot and hand of a time accused the belly, for that their gaines were deuoured by it * liuing in idlenesse. They command that it labour, or that it * seeke not to bee nourished. It beseecheth them * once, or twice: yet notwithstanding, the hands deny * to relieue it. The belly being * consumed *f* thorough lacke

* being idle.
* require.
* once and againe.
* nourishment [or releefe] vnto it.
* spent.
f by famine or hunger.

lacke of food, when all the limmes began to * faint, then at length the hands would be * kinde: but that too late. For the belly beeing * feeble thorough * lacke of vse, * repelled [all] meate: so whilst all the limmes enuy the belly, they perish * together with the belly.

* faile.

* dutifull, or officious.
* weake.
* disuse.
* bet, or put back, or refused
* with the belly perishing.

Mor.] * It is euen so in humane society, like as in the society of the members. * One member needs another, [and] a friend needeth a friend, Wherefore we must vse *g* mutuall kindnesses, [and] mutuall *b* workes; [for] neither riches, nor the * highest dignities * can sufficiently defend a man. The onely and chiefe * stay, is the friendship of * very many.

*Human society hath it selfe so, euen as it is in the society of, &c.
*A member needeth a member.

g duties of one another.
b good turnes.
* tops of dignities, hononrs, or preferments.
* doe defend a man sufficiently.
*garison, or ayd.
*very many men

Of

41

f an ape and a fox-cub, [teach-g that the rich had rather rt themselues with too much, than to part with ought to the poore.]

Miserablenesse in the rich, who cannot part with ought to the poore.

AN Ape intreats a Fox-cub, that shee would iue her a part of her tayle, o couer [her] buttockes: * for hat, that was a burthen to er, which would bee of vse nd an honour to her selfe. The cubbe answereth * that hee had nothing too much, nd * that shee had rather aue the ground to be *i* swept with her tayle, *k* than the buttocks of the Ape to bee couered.

*for [that thing] to be a burden to her [*viz.* the cub] which would be an vse and an honor to her selfe.
* She answereth.
* there to be nothing too much.
*her selfe to will rather.
i brushed.
k than to couer the Apes buttocks with it.

Mor] There are which need, there are others* who haue too much, yet notwithstanding, * it is not the manner of any of the rich

*to whom it doth abound.
* that fashion is to none of the rich, that he may blesse the needy with his superfluous matter [or goods]

rich, to blesse the nee
with their superfluity.

42

Difficulty of preseruing our selues in perill.
* hart.

Of a Stag and oxen, [teach the difficulty of preseruing selues in extreame perill.]*

A Stagge [of a time] * fl ing from the hunte * betooke himselfe into Oxe-house; hee * intre the oxen that * he might hi himselfe in the cribbe. T Oxen * tell him, that it cann be safe; for * that the mast and seruants would be prese by an by: hee saith, that h should bee safe; so that the betray him not. The seruan entereth in, seeth him no being hid in the hay, goet out. The Stagge [began] * t bee proud, and to feare no thing now. Then one of th Oxen beeing *l* graue both i age and counsell, * It was a easie

* fleeing the hunter.
* cast himself into a stall [or stable]
* prayeth, or beseecheth.
* it may be lawful to lye hid in the stall or cratch.
* deny it to be safe.
* both the master and the seruants to be about to be present.
* to gesture, or skip for ioy.
l sage.
* said, it was

asie thing (quoth hee) to de- an easie thing to deceiue, &c.
ceiue him which is a * mole, * molewarpe, or want, as blind as a molewarpe.
but that thou shouldest lye * Argus, whom the Poets fain to haue had an hundreth eyes.]
hid from the master, who is as quicke sighted as *Argus*, this is the worke, [and] this is the labour. * By and by after, the master entereth in: * who that hee may correct the negligence of his seruant, viewing all things with his eyes, and groping in the crib with his hand, catcheth hold of the hornes of the stag vnder the hay; he *m* cries out vnto [his] seruants, they run vnto [him] & shut in the stag [and] *n* take him.

* Straight way afterwards.
* who viewing [or marking] all things, &c. to the end that he may amend.
* trying the crib.
m cals out vnto.
* compasse in [or inclose] the wild beast.
n catch.

Mor.] *n* Hiding places are hard to bee found * in aduersity and dangers: either for that fortune doth still * pursue * men in misery as it hath begunne, or else becauſe they beeing hindered by feare, and void of counsell, do betray themselues

n places of harbor or succour.
* in aduerse things.

* tosse, or vex.
* miserable [men]

selues through their *[want] of heed.

* want of wisedome or foresight or by their owne folly or indiscretion.

43

Of a lion and a fox cub; [warning] vs to beware of faire words and how we trust our enemy; to conjecture of words by former deeds.

Beleeuing faire words.

A Lion was sick, the *beasts visited him, the fox-cub alone deferring [his] duty. The lion sends an embassage vnto *her, with * a letter admonishing [her] to come. [Saying] *that the presence of her onely would bee most acceptable [to him] being sicke. * Neither that there would be any danger wherefore the fox should feare. For * that first of al the lion was indeed most friendly to the fox, and therefore * desired earnestly * to haue speech with her. Moreouer, * that he was now sicke, and kept his bedde, that although

*liuing creatures came to see [him] o homage, or seruice.
* this fox.
*an epistle which admonisheth her to come, * the presence of her only to be a most acceptable thing to [him] being sicke. *nor any thing of danger to be.
* first indeed the lion to be most friendly, &c.
* to desire.
* the speech of her [or conference with her.]
* to be sicke and to lye downe.

ough hee * would doe that
hich was not [intended]
t he * could not hurt [her.]
e fox writeth backe, * that
e wisheth that the lion may
couer his health againe, and
hat she would pray for that
the gods; but yet * that
ee would not come to see
im.] * That shee was terri-
d with the footsteppes;
which indeede sith they
ere all towards the den of
e lion, and none turning
cke, * that it was a token
at many beasts had entered
, but that none had come
rth. *Horace;*
I will * returne that, which
once the wily fox answered
e sicke lion, * because the
otsteps terrifie [me.]
All of them looking to-
ards thee, none back again.

Mor.] Take heed [how]
you trust words, vnlesse
you * take good heed, * you
shall

* will.

* cannot.
*her selfe to wish

* her selfe to intreat the gods that thing. * not to visit [him.]
* her selfe to be terrified. * which steps indeed whē as all are turned towards. * that thing to be a token, many indeed of the liuing creatures to haue entred in, but none to haue gone forth.
* relate [or returne that *viz* that answer. * in time past, or somtime.
*for that all the footsteps looking towards thee, none back again, doe terrifie me.
* shall beware.
*words shal be giuen you oft-time

p be deceiued oft times. * A coniecture is to be taken or made. q we are to iudge of mens words by their deeds. * of these.

shall p oft haue words [only] giuen you. * Wee are to take a coniecture both of words and of deeds, and q those are to bee iudged * by these.

44

*Of * a Foxe and a Weesill [teaching vs to be content with a meane estate, rather than by prosperity to endanger our selues.]*

*Discontent with a meane estate.
* a fox cub.

OF a time] a Fox beeing * slender with long r lacke of meat, crept by chance into a corne chamber through * a very streight hole. In which when she had / bin well fed, * and afterward trying to goe forth againe, her belly being ouermuch stretched out hindered her. A Weesill * farre off seeing [her] struggling, at length * aduiseth [her] [that] / she desire to goe out, [that] shee returne

* thin or gaunt.
r hunger, or scarcity of victuals.
*a more narrow cleft, chinke, or cranny. / well fed her self. *her belly being ouerfilled, hindered her afterwards assaying to goe forth againe.
*beholding her a far off wrestling, [or striuing] to get out.
* admonisheth,

to

Mor.] Many * striue a-
ainst pouertie, z which
eeing ouercome through
[good] fortune and in-
ustrie, * they oft-times
ose their libertie. For be-
ng indeed Lords and con-
uerours of pouerty, they
egin to serue riches, are
riuen with the whips of
ouetousnesse, [and] are
arbed in with the bridles
f * niggardlinesse, nei-
her yet doe they keepe [a-
y] measure * in seeking;
either yet indeede dare
ey vse the things which
ey haue gotten, * for a
st punishment of their co-
etousnesse. *Horace* [saith]
oncerning this matter, in
is] first booke of Epistles;
* A stag [of a time] be-
g too hard for a horse in
ght, droue him from the
ommon pasture, vntill
the horse] beeing * too
eake in that long sight.

* fight.
z which pouerty.
* Oft-times the liberty of the conqueror perisheth, or is lost.
* ouermuch sparing.
* of seeking [riches.]
* by the iust, or through the &c.
* A stag being better in sight droue away a horse from the common herbs, or grasse. * lesse in long strift or contention.

a Implored the * [illegible] man, and receiued the [illegible] dle [of that condition.]

* So after, that, b the violent conquerour departed from c the enemy,

Hee d repelled not the horseman from [his] backe, * nor the bridle from [his] mouth.

So the * poore caitife, who fearing * pouerty, loseth liberty, better than * gold, shall carry [his] master,

And hee * shall be a slaue for euer, who e will not know [how] f to vse a little.

a earnestly besought.

* But.

b the horse hauing now gotten the conquest,

c the stag,

d reiected or cast off.

* nor [put away or remoued] the bridle.

* vnhappy or foolish man.

* want

* metals,

* shall serue or be a seruant.

e cannot tell.

f to be content with,

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